the Poyya Group Panchayat, requesting the Government to take up immediately the construction of the Kundur-Kuzhur road, (Mukundapuram Taluk);

(b) whether it is not a fact that a sum of Rs. 3,000 was provided by the Government in the Poyya Panchayat Budget of 1106 for cost of land acquisition for the above road, but was allowed to lapse on account of the delay caused in the land acquisition proceedings;

(c) whether the Diwan had not in his Proceedings D. Dis. 8772-08, dated 24th January 1933, ordered the Chief Engineer to take up the work of the above road after providing funds for it in the budget of 1109; and

(d) whether the necessary notices for land acquisition had not been published accordingly in the Government Gazette;

(e) in view of the above facts, what were the reasons which prompted the Government to order, before barely six months had passed from the date of their first order, that the opening of the above road will be put off to better times (D. Dis. 16126-08, dated 9th June 1934);

(f) are the Government aware that the putting off the opening of the above road is causing severe hardship to the people of all the neighbouring villages;

(g) will it not be possible for the Government even under the present financial condition, to provide for the opening of the road, if not all at once, at least in instalments extending over two or three years?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The draft declaration was published.

(e) The opening of this road involved a big outlay (Rs. 40,000) and the Government's financial position did not permit the taking up of this work.

(f) No. Government can understand that the opening of the road will add to the facilities for communication.

(g) Government will consider the opening of this road as a requirement of the village and see to its opening according to funds and the urgency of other works.

Industrial progress of the State.

139. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) What definite attempts they have made during the last ten years for the industrial progress of the State; and

(b) with what results?

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Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) and (b) Since the amalgamation of the Industries Department with that of Education, the department has been mainly concerned with the supervision of vocational education. With a view to formulate a definite policy and plan a workable programme of Economic Development an Industrial and Economic Survey of the State has been ordered and the report from the Special Officer appointed for the purpose is awaited.

Separate Department for Industries.

140. Mr. Joseph Pettah—Will the Government be pleased to answer the following questions:—

(a) was there not in the State some time ago a separate Department for Industries;

(b) how long was that department under an independent head, directly responsible to the Diwan;

(c) what were the reasons which induced the Government to amalgamate the above department with that of Education on the promotion of Mr. Appu Pisharodi as Comptroller of Accounts;

(d) has not that amalgamation proved a serious handicap to the industrial progress of the State?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) For 6 years from 1095 to 1101.

(c) The operations of the department were watched carefully during the period of its existence and it was considered that the net results so far achieved did not justify its continuance.

(d) Not so far as the Government is aware.

Function of the Director of Public Instruction in respect of the Industries Department.

141. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to answer the following questions:—

(a) what are the functions at present of the Director of Public Instruction in his capacity as the head of the Department of Industries in the State;

(b) have the Government started any industries, since the amalgamation of the Department of Industries with that of Education, either by way of demonstrating to the public the economic feasibility of such industries or as source of income for the Government?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) All administrative functions connected with the control and supervision of vocational education.

(b) No.

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